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for the Country, is published every Saturday morning, at
the low price of \$2 per annum, in advance.

THE TRIBUNE.

Mr. Colton's Lecture.

Mr. Colton's second Lecture on the Indians of North America, delivered at the University Chapel, on Wednesday evening, was interesting and instructive. He began with a recapitulation of the incidents, which history or tradition has preserved in Aboriginal life during the first century after the discovery of the country. The career of the Five Nations in particular, after a felicitous sketch of their character and government, was carried on through the period of their rapid and wide-spread conquest, ending with the extermination about the year 1654, of the Andastes or the head waters of the Susquehanna, and the Iroquois on the Southern shores of their native lake. Mr. Colton turned then to the colonies just planted along the Atlantic, before which all the vast interior of the wilderness still unexplored, with its wild men and their simple pursuits, and the unchanged forms of Nature, were to vanish forever—shrinking before that light of civilization, which, where it does not vivify and illumine, must inevitably blast and destroy.

He then gave a narrative of the extermination of the tribes in Virginia. The unscrupulous aggressions on Indian rights, the supposed feelings and reasons of Opechancouhan, before the first massacre in 1622, the long series of desperate conflicts, the hollow-truce, the nine years retirement of the stern chief, sullenly preparing to renew the struggle, the second massacre, the aged Sachem, broken in body, unbroken in spirit, borne in the van of his warriors on a litter, and directing the battle, his capture and entrance into Jamestown, the assassination and death of this Hannibal of Virginia,—were all described in a graphic and spirited manner. It was also remarked that after his death the natives of Virginia made very little resistance to the encroachments of the Whites, and disappeared so rapidly, that within half a century, only a remnant or two left between the Atlantic and Alleghanies, at the end of a century, and very few only in the entire State.

Mr. Colton then proceeded to the settlement by the Puritans, and their intercourse with the natives. The analysis which he gave of the Pilgrim character, though brief, was beautiful and just.

This was followed by a representation of the true grounds of the Pequot war, and ended with the struggle and death of Metacomet, called King Philip.

This part of the subject was given throughout with great felicity and vigor. The life-long friendship of Massasoit, the melancholy fate of his eldest son, Wamsutter, called by the English Alexander, the accession of Metacomet, the ceaseless jealousies and suspicions of the colonists, the indignities and wrongs done to Philip, his long forbearance, his enforcement to the struggle, his consummate art, statesmanship and diplomacy while his plans were secret, his bold and vigorous measures when the war had begun, the desolation of the settlements, the victories, the reverses, the hunting of the royal fugitive, the sorrowful lingering around the home of his fathers, the retreat to the wild and gloomy place of refuge, the stern and sullen grandeur of the closing scene—were narrated with a rapid and glowing eloquence.

Mr. Colton's next lecture is to be delivered this evening, and will, we trust, be well attended.

Capital Punishment.

To the Editor of The Tribune:
Much has been said of late concerning the recent Public Debates on Capital Punishment. Our names having been mentioned in connection with the subject, we think proper to make the following statement of facts:

Soon after the first Public Debate in the Broadway Tabernacle, each of us received a written invitation from the Secretary of the New-York Lyceum to engage in a further discussion of the question. We immediately and cheerfully assented. A few days subsequently, we were informed that reasons not specified, our services would not be needed.

Very soon afterward, we were consulted by W. B. Wengwood, Esq. (who had and has the principal management of the "Course of Public Debates at the Broadway Tabernacle,") in relation to a Debate with certain Clergymen who had either participated in the previous Debates, or had expressed a willingness to engage in a further discussion of Capital Punishment. We promptly consented to meet them on equal terms. After a delay of several days, we were informed by Mr. Wengwood that he could not succeed in making the arrangements on the other side of the question.

A few weeks ago, we were again waited upon by Mr. Wengwood with a proposal for a debate with Rev. Messrs. Cheever and Cox. To this we also promptly and heartily acceded, hoping that at last the matter, so far as we are concerned, was in the way of a fair and honorable issue. But we were disappointed by information shortly received from Mr. Wengwood, that the gentlemen above mentioned positively declined meeting us as

at a time when he had and has the principal management of the "Course of Public Debates at the Broadway Tabernacle,") in relation to a Debate with certain Clergymen who had either participated in the previous Debates, or had expressed a willingness to engage in a further discussion of Capital Punishment. We promptly consented to meet them on equal terms. After a delay of several days, we were informed by Mr. Wengwood that he could not succeed in making the arrangements on the other side of the question.

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We have since learned, by an anonymous article in The Tribune, (which article, if not authorized, was very presumptuous,) that the individual who sought to make the arrangement was irresponsible. Mr. W. will, we suppose, answer for himself. We will merely say that we furnished him a written statement of the proposal for presentation to Messrs. Cheever and Cox, and that we are still willing to meet them in discussion of the following questions, on equal terms:

Death and Punishment to be perpetuated?

Right Capital Punishment to be also used?

WILLIAM S. GALCH, 60 Anns st. New-York.

ALBERT C. THOMAS, 73 Cranberry-st. Brooklyn.

Ms. A. 183.

TEACHING OF BILT JOHNSON.—One of the papers declared the story of the lynching of Johnson to be a hoax, and said that he lived in a neighborhood of that city. This is incorrect.

The Miner's (Dubuque, Ia.) Express contains a full report of the trial of the offenders. The names of those who survived the cold of the terrible night, and have been captured are, Evans, Spencer, Parish and Rowley. The jury brought a verdict of guilty, and Evans and Spencer, were sentenced to the Penitentiary for two years, the former to pay a fine of one hundred and the latter two hundred dollars; Rowley was sentenced for a year and Parise for six months each, with a fine of one hundred dollars. One of the others of the gang was frozen to death the same night. The ringleader has thus far eluded all attempts to take

him. The bill to authorize the banks to issue small notes, redeemable only where issued—which passed the House by a vote of about 70 to 40—has been killed in the Senate, by being laid on the table.

[Richmond Whig.]

NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE.

BY GREELEY & MCELRATH.

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OFFICE NO. 160 NASSAU-STREET.

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 1, 1843.

FIVE DOLLARS A YEAR.

WHOLE NO. 616.

Iron, its Varieties and Production—The State Prison Question.

New-York, 23 March, 1843.

In your paper of this morning, I noticed an article from the "New-York State Mechanic," respecting the establishment of Iron Works by the State in Clinton County, in which great ignorance is displayed and some important mistakes are promulgated.

Will you allow one who has had not a little experience in the manufacture of Iron, to make some brief remarks through the medium of your paper, with a view to correct these errors?

The writer of that article commences with the modest assumption, "that persons who write for Newspapers should know that charcoal-made iron is absolutely indispensable for certain purposes where really good iron is required,—such as chains, tools, all iron required for steel, sheet-iron, wagon-tires, machinery, &c. &c." If the writer had used the caution that he recommends to others, he would have known that nine-tenths of all the iron used in the United States, and ninety-nine one-hundredths of that used in England for the purposes he enumerates—except iron required for steel—are made wholly in part with mineral coal. The best English chain-cable iron is made, and has been for years, exclusively with mineral coal; and most of the American iron now used at the several Navy Yards in this Country is also made wholly in part with the same fuel.

Recent discoveries in the use of anthracite coal in the preliminary operations of smelting and refining the metal at the tunnel-head of the furnaces, must inevitably destroy charcoal blast-furnaces. Puddling and reheating with charcoal has never been practiced to any considerable extent in this Country—except in remote regions—and never can be. A few years since, these latter processes were performed with bituminous coal—within the last three years, anthracite, where it was attainable, has been substituted to great advantage. The time is not distant when a ton of good chain-cable iron or iron of a quality suitable for chains, tools, sheets, wagon-tire or machinery, will be manufactured complete in regions where mineral coal and iron ore are found in juxtaposition, at an expense less than the material required for a ton of charcoal-iron can be brought together on the shores of Lake Champlain—to say nothing of the expense of embodying those materials into iron.

No enlightened iron-master—one who understands his business theoretically and practically, and who has examined into the resources of the country and the advantages held out in the coal regions—would accept any or all the Iron Mines in Clinton County as a gift, on condition that he should be obliged to work them for ten years on a scale commensurate with their extent.

Moreover, within the last twelve months, all or nearly all the Nails manufactured in this country have been made of American Iron—the product of Mineral Coal. There is a single establishment near this city which has made within eight months with this fuel more than fifteen hundred tons for this purpose. The American iron has entirely supplanted the Swedes for Nails. The others used in the progress of time since 1817, about the 15th of March. The latest period of record on record at which the river has opened, was the 8th of April, (1807.) In 1828 the river was navigable through to Albany the whole or part of each month in the year.

Navigation of the Hudson.

[Prepared for The Tribune by E. WILLIAMS.]

Table of the periods when the North River closed and opened at Albany, from 1817 to 1842.

Year. River closed. River opened. Days
1817-18 December 7, 1817 March 25, 1818 103
1818-19 December 14, 1818 April 3, 1819 110
1819-20 December 13, 1819 March 25, 1820 102
1820-21 November 13, 1820 March 15, 1821 123
1821-22 December 13, 1821 March 15, 1822 92
1822-23 December 24, 1822 March 24, 1823 90
1823-24 December 16, 1823 March 3, 1824 75
1824-25 January 5, 1825 March 6, 1825 60
1825-26 December 13, 1825 Feb. 26, 1826 75
1826-27 December 24, 1826 March 26, 1827 86
1827-28 November 25, 1827 Feb. 8, 1828 94
1828-29 December 23, 1828 April 1, 1829 100
1829-30 January 11, 1830 March 15, 1830 63
1830-31 December 23, 1830 March 15, 1831 63
1831-32 December 5, 1831 March 25, 1832 111
1832-33 December 21, 1832 March 21, 1833 83
1833-34 December 13, 1833 Feb. 24, 1834 73
1834-35 December 15, 1834 March 25, 1835 100
1835-36 November 30, 1835 April 4, 1836 125
1836-37 December 7, 1836 March 26, 1837 111
1837-38 December 14, 1837 March 15, 1838 65
1838-39 November 25, 1838 March 21, 1839 116
1839-40 December 18, 1839 Feb. 21, 1840 65
1840-41 December 5, 1840 March 24, 1841 109
1841-42 December 19, 1841 Feb. 4, 1842 47

The river throughout to New-York has not always been clear of ice on the days stated above. The time when the first steamboat passed from New-York to Albany, or vice versa, was in 1825, March 25; in 1836, April 10; in 1837, March 31; in 1838, March 19; in 1839, March 25; in 1840, Feb. 25; in 1841, March 26; in 1842, Feb. 6. In 1804 the river was closed at Albany until the 6th of April; and in 1807 it opened on the 8th of April. The average time of opening appears to have been, for the whole series of years since 1817, about the 15th of March. The latest period of record on record at which the river has opened, was the 8th of April, (1807.) In 1828 the river was navigable through to Albany the whole or part of each month in the year.

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